Poetry Series

Brian Routh

- poems -

Publication Date:

September 2008

Publisher:

PoemHunter.Com - The World's Poetry Archive

Poems are the property of their respective owners. This e-book was created by Brian Routh on www.poemhunter.com. For the procedures of publishing, duplicating, distributing and listing of the poems published on PoemHunter.Com in any other media, US copyright laws, international copyright agreements and other relevant legislation are applicable. Such procedures may require the permission of the individuals holding the legal publishing rights of the poems.

Brian Routh (9th March 1948)

I am an artist and I have lived in the USA for 25 years. Mostly in Los Angeles with some years spent in San Francisco, Chicago, New York and on the Russian River.
I moved to London when I was 12 and lived in Munich and Berlin for a time. I became a performance artist in 1972 and worked with a partner and we became the Kipper Kids. Since 1980 in addition to the Kipper Kids I have performed as a solo artist. I have also performed and collaborated with many other artists such as Karen Finley, Tony Labat, Eric Bogosian, Ian Hinchcliffe, Genesis P. Orridge, Public Image, the Sex pistols, Joanna Went, Henry Rollins and many others. my website http: //www.digitalkipper.com where you can see examples of my artwork in the form of painting, sculpture, comics, music, movies, writing and photos. I have performed all over Europe, North Africa, Canada, North America and the UK.

Works:

No Books. DVD Movies. CDs of music. Photo work. Paintings. Sculpture. Comic books.

Ancient Relic

Lost in earthen ware jars,
Thrown to the tide and the dust storm,
Forever I rearranged myself and started across town.
The streets were deserted,
I wandered aimlessly, looking this way and that,
Expecting to see the shroud in all its splendour.
Too much as I rambled on at length,
Hoping to see the new dawn and the brilliant primroses.
Aghast! My head and heart had swollen to immense proportions.
I let myself drift in this sea of cacophonous swirling and abstractions.
I hoped to stay and linger forever on this orbiting slab of debris.
To watch awhile longer, the frenzied comings and goings of the twisted populace.
To feel the sensations of blood pounding in my head
And the animalistic mechanism of the heart pumping its oil around this aging body.
Oh joy!
Tomorrow is a bank account of my life.
I look foreword and wait.
Expecting to what tomorrow will bring.
The past is my record.
No longer in the top fifty.

Brian Routh

Art and Books

art and books
negative hooks
they're phony they're fake
they make my head ache
although i don't read
i sing 'til i bleed
don't waste my time
cause reading's a crime
painting's much worse
a lie and a curse
it's all just pretentious
it makes me contentious
i'll fight to defend
my ignorant friend
all culture is sad
it just makes me mad
no use in thinking
i'm better off drinking
ignorance is better
i don't need no letter
as i sit in the drain
i'm drowning my brain
the books might be right
but they're blinding my sight
i'll set 'em on fire
and quench my desire
art is no fun
go get me my gun
i'm soon gonna crush
the man with the brush
i'm free of all learning
i'm angry i'm burning
you've come far to late
i'm strangled in hate
i don't need no heart
no books and no art
now i lay in my grave
i'm too late to save
you can all go to hell
i'll ring my own bel

Brian Routh

Consumed with talent?

Jack the hack, a writer
worked as a waiter
he used to be a fighter
he used to be a hater
eating made him fatter
sleeping made him lazy
complaining made him natter
worry made him crazy

one day he ate himself
which gave him indigestion
consumed all his health
and swallowed all his questions

Brian Routh

Cyber Me

I upload myself to the computer to see just how I look
Am I a person or am I a book?
On the hard drive I look so fine and slick
Better get it on the website double quick.

Is it me is it not?
Who am I…I forgot.

How many megabytes am I?
'Trigabytes! ' I hear my laptop cry.

Now I am in my system folder
Buried deep and so much older.
Try to find me if you can
Ask Jeeves or Google if I'm the man?

I live forever in Cyberspace
An epitaph to the human race
No longer am I flesh and bone
But numbers in the computer zone.

A JPEG here a PDF there
I'm FTP'd everywhere.

Upload, download, refresh, save,
Join the new computer slaves.

My mobile plugs into my ear
Adds to my brain an extra gear.

Now I am an external drive
Am I dead or am I alive?

Connected to the Internet
It doesn't matter if I forget,
My memory's out there on the web
An eternal Cyberspace celeb.

Brian Routh

Dazed

I was stunned by the sound
I forgot reason and jumped to safety
I was followed by a demon
'hold up your head to the light' he said
I said I didn't know
he said that there was nothing in it
I was confused but escaped and found freedom
the soil has missed me
I remained in balance
quite steady
they told me I'd have difficulty in moving
I found my feet and walked
'what kind of vision do you want? '
'I'll er take that one there er, is that alright? '
'yeah, go on, Ill wait here for you'
'I might be awhile'
'that's alright, I'll just sit here and think a bit'
'right, I'll be off then'
I stumbled over the debris
trying to piss
but only striking the ground with my head each time

Brian Routh

Death

This body must decay and die.
I look at these arms, these legs,
The smell of my body,
Perhaps for the last time, everytime.
I awoke as if from a deep sleep.
A jolt of bells,
A bolt of light.
I looked at my hands in fear and wonder.
Adieu! Sweet fingers,
Farewell! Fond thumbs.

Brian Routh

Ecstasy

I am in ecstasy
I am in joy
The angels have spoken
they speak in words that are not of this world
they speak in the language of the soul
but you and I know what they say
they speak and sing
the sounds that fill us with the tears of joy
this is real
this is REAL
oh I am so moved by this
I will hold you
and when I do the vibrations will shake our foundations
we will feel the earth move
this is REAL love
this is you and me
this is the real language of our souls
this is our hearts singing together
this is OUR love
Oh Darling I am engulfed in the feelings between us
I am in awe of you
I am you and you are me
this is REAL love darling
REAL love

Brian Routh

Empathic Illness

I am Ill.
Struck down with the deadly virus of empathy.
A Piscean magnet adrift in a vast ocean of human suffering and emotion.
My solace is sleep where a Muse with a thousand faces and forms visits me,
As I fly through my dreams, soaring above the city,
Performing aerial acrobatics for the swirling mass of people below
Who only half see me through their masks of cold indifference
And neurotic, obsessive consumption,
Attempting to fix the lack of meaning.

In the half light of early morning,
The birds in my garden pull me from my slumber.
The Crows croaking their morning mantra.
The Magpie with a rattle in his throat.
The Robin and Hedge-sparrow with their sweet
Haunting melodies
And the Dove softly cooing.

I Stare at the sky and watch the clouds floating by
Far above the battlefield of Humanity that begin their daily cacophonous din.
The convoys of trucks, buses, cars, vans and motorbikes
Like a gigantic chaotic military operation bent of some deadly destruction
Begin their morning commute to and from nowhere.

Should I say 'Happy New Year? '
What year?
What time?
Whose time?
The Christian, the Jew, the Arab, the Egyptian, the Chinese, the Mayan, the Polynesian?
I send you only warmth and goodness.

Brian Routh

Fat Cat

there once was a cat called Nat
who tried to catch a rat
but the rat called Bart
was very smart
and Nat was far too fat.

Brian Routh

Fields of Love

As we walk hand in hand through the fields of yellow corn
Our voices singing with the innocence of childhood.
We talk of castles and grand things.
The wind carries our words to the clouds.
The sun warms us and fills us with Divine energy.
We are as if born anew into a new world
Of magic and of wonder.
We laugh and play and fall into each others' arms.
Lying together in the tall grass we make love
With such passion and such deep love
That the Angels gather to ward off any dark spirit
That should dare to enter into our sanctuary of pure joy.
Tired from our lovemaking we lie in each others' arms
And sweetly dream the same dream.
A dream of flying through the white clouds hand in hand.
Oh what love this is
To have found you after all these years.
Searching the sands of time for you my love.
You are my twin soul.
I love you more than ever now.
To kiss you and feel you in my arms
Once more is a gift from God to me.
The Heavens opened up and beamed you into my life.
You and I are in perfection together now.
I love you.

Brian Routh

First Embrace

Rain pours down from the darkened clouds
We huddle together under the shelter in the field.
Thunder rumbles in the distance
Lightning cracks and zig-zags across the sky.
Our hearts entwined beat together
Our eyes meet and love flows between us.
Time stands still and all is silent
As though the entire world were waiting for our first kiss.
Our arms wrap themselves around each others' bodies
And I pull you towards me
Our eyes still locked together.
I look down at your mouth and you at mine
Our lips part and we smile.
I put my lips on yours and you surrender to me
We kiss deeply and passionately.
The energy and love flows like liquid between us.
Still kissing, our hands run through each others hair.
The kiss becomes more passionate
We lower our bodies to the floor.
Quickly we undress one another
Naked I fall into you and I am lost in the passion of you.
We make love slowly and deeply our eyes still locked together
Our words and sounds urging us on.
Oh my love this is heaven here.
I am inside of you and I am lost within you
You call out my name so tenderly and sweetly
'I am yours my darling' my voice replies.
Our lovemaking intensifies
I above you and you above me
Faster our bodies move in and out of one another
Sweat pours from us.
We move together faster and faster.
Our voices uttering words of love and tenderness.
'I am going to come my love! ' I shout
' I love you! ' we call to one another
'I am coming! ' your words sing out
We reach the first ever climax together
We are as liquid melting into each others' bodies.
'Oh my darling this is so wonderful.'
I say as
You fall onto me
Your head against my chest.
Now we have made love for the first time
Now we have connected our hearts, souls and bodies.
This is the beginning my darling
This is our first sweet embrace.
We will be this way forever now
I am yours and you are mine.
I love you my angel.

Brian Routh

Forever My Love

In every dream there you are.
From every corner your eyes seek mine.
Our hearts beating as one.
The waves of passion running through us.
We play and laugh in the ocean of love like twin Dolphins.
Together we are you and I.
Eternally dancing are our bodies.
In our lovemaking entwined.
I am yours and you are mine.
Forever my love.

Brian Routh

Free?

Hilda was blue
Betty was two
Jenny was red
Clare was dead
Joan was three
but who is free?

Brian Routh

Freedom

Free me from the insanity
of the physical
free me from the blockage of bodies and minds
clear me of life as I know it

Brian Routh

Girl in NYC

There was a girl
in New York City
Whose flashing form
was light and pretty

She drew me in
to her love and charms
And held me tight
within her arms

Her bed of roses
did I smell
As She wrapped me in
Her magic spell

I long to hear
Her voice again
To feel the the beat
charge through my veins

To touch Her
and whisper soft
To kiss Her
and hold aloft

All the wonder
of this world
Spinning fast
within this girl

Brian Routh

Hero

I dream't that
I was in body
flowing coolly
through the shoddy
streets of shame
and vagrancy
with a name of luck
and poignancy.

If life is death
and death is life
getting old
is getting bold
and youth is a burst
a flash a thirst

that is quickly quenched
and in temporal
sweetness drenched

there were hills
to climb
and pills
sublime

eternity a game
love a frame

the art of suffering
turned on and off
at responsibility
I would scoff

to die in glory
with fame
and story

to be a hero for the
world to follow
and now I see that
all is hollow

the unfading light
within my soul
burns forever bright
and makes me whole

there is no fame
there is no name
there is no game

the pain of life is real

to be a hero
is to be alive
and to feel

Brian Routh

Hey Hey!

don't go back to sleep
don't go back to bed
don't sleep on your feet
don't close up your head
hey hey!
hey hey!
don't slip on your shadow
don't fall down that hole
don't drown in the shallow
don't forget your soul
hey hey!
hey hey!
music's pouring through ya
beauty's in your heart
sing the halleluja
ride the golden cart
hey hey!
hey hey!

Brian Routh

Ho Ho Ho!

I wonder what I should say to start the blood rolling,
To keep the energy high,
The level even up-upper.
Not too much in the clouds
Or flopping in the centre of our existing pleasures.
Far from cries of hunger and loneliness.
Just the whimpering in sunlight for the desire to lash out in all directions.
To keep the ventricles free and the head light to boot.
I am ready right now.
I am ready right now.
I am at the start.
The preface and the coda.
The epilogue and the legend.
Oh-Ho Ho!

Brian Routh

Holy Man

I am a Holy man in deep cover
I have no father and no mother
No fortune and no fame
No history and no name
I have no future waiting to unfold
No pearls of wisdom or pots of gold
I have no pleasure to cover my shame
No culprits in which to blame
I have no crutch on which to lean
No heaven on which to dream
I have no robe in which to hide
No doctrine in which to glide
I am a Holy man in deep cover

Brian Routh

I care

Paid by the Gods
paid by the Devils
I wander through the doors of Hell, stagnation and blindness
through the halls of murky people
scrambling for devices and substances
to ease their pain
the cries and screams muffled by the numbing of the brain
my heart pounds
I fear it will explode
I utter incomprehensible sounds
my saliva drools down my chin
feelings of emptiness eat at my soul
I want to help
to reach out
there is only slime and darkness connecting with my hands
'I care! I care! '
I scream
'Who cares mother fucker? '
the voices explode back against my face
their puke scented breath envelops me
and causes me to faint

Brian Routh

I Died On This Day

forever i run
down the steep slope
i'm carrying a gun
i'm all out of hope
my mission is clear
i have to kill me
i have no more fear
now i can see
i died long ago
before i was born
and now i do know
my soul is all torn
my tired existence
is over and done
it's only insistence
on ending all fun
my journey was long
my feelings were pure
a blind endless song
that chanted my cure
as i fall down the hole
my limp body crumbles
as i detach my soul
my thoughts become mumbles
i don't turn to see
i just keep on going
i fly away free
a cloud of unknowing
there's nothing behind me
there's nothing in front
i'm no longer lonely
i'm no longer blunt
the person i was
has faded away
all this because
i died on this day

Brian Routh

I say

It's not when I said what I said
It's what I said when I said it

Brian Routh

Invention

there once was a professor sprocket
who tried to build a rocket
his braces went twang
the rocket went bang
and he found his cock in his pocket

Brian Routh

It is time

It is time to move amongst the bushes
to isolate the rooms
close up the gaps
out from the lapse.

forget the clouds that gloomily hang
around the centres
stopping the breath from freely passing.
to be alone as we all must be
in birth and death
no holding of hands
or clinging to mother.

it is time for me to be
to check myself alone
within the spaces of walking
through the avenues of trees
that bend their branches
their children leaves richly green
drinking mother's milk
detaching themselves and falling to the ground.

agonising moments of heart's despair
in air
on ground
to breathe a sound
alone in darkness
hollow sound
echoing back to sender.

remember the passion
of the garden dreams
wearing ceremonious garments
the making of vows
God, esteem and glory
out from it
away
free
has to be
all will wither
no more sound.

Brian Routh

left brain right brain

You put your left brain in,
Your right brain out,
In out-in out,
You shake 'em all about,
You do the hocus pocus
And you turn around,
That's what it's all about!

Oh! hocus-hocus pocus!
Oh! hocus-hocus pocus!
Oh! hocus-hocus pocus!

Knees bend! Arms stretch!
Ra! Ra! Ra!

Brian Routh

My Princess

I call you my Princess my love
Yet the day shall come when you will my Queen.
I am but a humble Knight who returns from the hermitage
To champion your cause.
If I may presume to say
I shall one day be the King to your Queen.
It gives me such tender, sweet pleasure to serve you until my life shall end.
This is a poetic pledge to your heart and soul from the very depths of me.
The soft and tender hooks of love are buried deep within you and I.
We are betrothed eternally to one another.
The sweet, sweet comfort and passion doth flow between us
I am yours my love.
Your laughter like sacred and joyful music echoes throughout my being
Your eyes haunt me wherever I roam.
On this earth we are wrapped together in a charm of wondrous light
We stand and hold each other in absolute stillness
As the world spins about us.
Ah my love this is magic indeed.
This is sublime and true love.
You are my muse
I have known you all my life
You have always been in my heart.
I have looked for you for many a year and now I have found you.
Our hearts and minds connect on many levels.
God has brought us together to love and to work,
To weave his magic and great love so that we may share it with the world.
This is a great blessing
To be given this sacred and wondrous chance to serve such Divine energy.
Ah my love you have awakened me from such a deep and long sleep.
Your magic presence has beamed into the very core of my being,
I am on fire with your passion and your tenderness.
This is indeed an honour to be loved by you.
This is indeed a pleasure to love you.

Brian Routh

My Rose

when I look at the sun
your heart shines
and showers me with yellow rose petals.
your sweet scent engulfs me and fills me with the fragrance of love.
your eyes fill me with wonder and awe
your energy flows into my soul.
I am floating under the Willow tree
with you in my arms.
our boat is pulled along by angels
their song is from heaven
it echoes throughout the chambers of my being.
our love shields us from all
we are complete.
we are two souls and hearts that beat as one drum.
in a trance we move through the clouds
and hold each other in tender and sweet embrace.
you are my rose
you sparkle and glisten in the morning dew
your thorns do not prick me but protect us both
against all adversaries.
I am in your mind
your thoughts and dreams roll out around me
like tapestries of ancient fabric.
their images carry us to a far away island
where alone we are in constant love play
we sing together as one music
the song is our mantra.
the mantra of perfection and love.

Brian Routh

Naked

I unzipped my life and exposed my source

Brian Routh

No Time To Spare

I ran as swift as the wind through the freezing hail towards safety and sanity but the warmth of haven and host was rapidly fading as my being continued to melt and my body seemed insignificant.
'Hold up there sir! ' shouted an ugly looking vessel that sailed on by me.
I could not and would not stop.
The end was waiting and I eagerly and feverishly rushed blindly towards it.
'Hope man! ' screeched the steamship as it puffed and chugged to catch up with me.
I dared not turn around to see the face of pimples,
Grease stains, gouges debauchery and bad living.
I focused all my concentration on the whirlwind ahead
And stretched my body and being to greater and greater limits, hurtling myself faster and faster.
My feet left the ground and I began to sore higher and higher above the earth.
I flew through the air with grace and elegance.
I looked down with a birds eye view of the pulsating world below.
All was blissful and wondrous.
'Look ahead! Dive man, dive! ' yelled my pursuer,
He was also airborne and some distance below me.
I mocked this rude order from this over-weight rooster
And as I indulged myself in negative thoughts about him, I flew head on into the heart of the whirlwind.
I was picked out of my flight path and spun around in ever increasing circles and finally flung at jet speed
Deeper into the sombre purple tunnel of clouds
That was lit up here and there by flashes of lightning.
I don’t know for how long I traveled at this speed as I was in and out of consciousness throughout the experience.
I remember my clothes being sucked from my body by biting winds that blew at me from all sides and threw oceans of icy water at me with such velocity and force
That I was instantly drowning and completely frozen.
The sounds that filled my ears were deafening unearthly howls and screams.
Explosions shook my bones, ripped off the top of my head and engulfed me in flames that were repeatedly extinguished by the swirling waters.

Brian Routh

Oceans of Time

will you walk with me my love
through the fields of sunflowers.
through the rain and thunderstorms
in the warm morning sun.
hand in hand we go you and I
love protects us from the cold.
our souls are as one shining light
our hearts are intertwined.
I am yours forever my love
you are deep within me.
twin dolphins we are you and I
deep within the oceans of time.

Brian Routh

Ode To My Muse

her hair is like fire
her essence is blue
her eyes are saphire
her soul a green hue

music pours from her
like hymns from the heavens
poems of silver
and biblical sevens

immense words of power
flow from her being
in her dark tower
her eyes are all seeing

she wrenches free
from the pain in her heart
just like a tree
with leaves torn apart

she's sent here to heal us
to free us from pain
she sings to remind us
again and again

she is just here
for a short time
to free us from fear
with magical rhyme

her words all gushing
throughout your brain
messages rushing
to keep you all sane

next time you hear her
sit up and note
always remember
to let yourself float

down to the river
out into the sea
there she'll deliver
your soul to be free

Brian Routh

On Fire

we are on fire!
we burn and yet there is no heat
nothing is burned
the flames engulf us and yet we do not burn
this is the violet flame
the flame of heaven that pours down on upon us
do you know how blessed we are?
this is truly a wonderful thing
this doesn't happen to everyone
you and I are really, really blessed
this goes beyond any religion
this is a once in a lifetime experience
we are in the love of the heavens
this love we feel is so pure
this love is Divine
oh what joy
we are on fire with the flame of purity
the flame is our soul fire
the stars in the heavens are fragments of you
like pieces of glass they blind me
and mesmerize me
you have taken me and weaved a magic spell around my heart
I am your lover of eternity
my princess
my angel
my love

Brian Routh

Performance

Firecrackers
water pistol
ukelele
fresh air spray
kneel
pray
record over head
turd ceremony
incense
glitter
record over head
chant
gong
pack up
stink bombs
leave

Brian Routh

Pondering the madness

I pondered forever on the theme of madness
to be ever in the debt of life
in the ways of the world
the struggle for supremacy
the throws of exquisite existence
the emblem rising
heavy breathing on the theme of doldrums
why is it that I have not the strength
to seek the magic
the wonder that is my obvious inheritence
I writhe and seethe
whine and complain
the lot of a man too sick and filled with vomit
it's pungent odour of decay
filling the air
it overflows from my mouth
it streams down the outside of this aging body
in love I am with energy and recognition
of that dream that life is
never ending streams of consciousness
like flowing turds through the sewers of my soul
passing through velvet passages
of turbulent wonder
I love this life
this spot of blood bubbling on the surface of the desert
left behind by kings and queens of old
the almighty seeketh me to begineth where I endeth
Ah! solitude, sweet solitude
poetic effusion seeketh thee out
the page and friends of thy nature
the future, a trifle to be fixed with points of reference
architectural design of blood cell massed in incredible confusion
explanation of disgusted apathy
vision of self doubt
defecation of civilisation written as history
we learn through remembering
the lies created

Brian Routh

Prayer for Life

In the golden sunlight
I lifted up my head
The golden eagle landed
To tell me I'm not dead
The golden calf is worshipped
By sacrificial hosts
The golden coins of rich men
Are building Holy Ghosts

Electric Bolts zap me
Eclectic music raps me.

I am in the fog
I am lost
I cannot see
My wires crossed.

My bodies dissolve
My chakras revolve
Spun out of control
Away from my goal

Where was I going
Before I came here
Where did I come from
Before I appeared

What is my name
This time around
Are those my bones
Under the ground

How can I laugh
With so much gloom
Hidden away
In some darkened room

I have traveled through
So many lands
Lived many lives
In so many sands

Of time that is no time
In space that is no space

The river flows on
I sit on her banks
Watching the battles
Guns and tanks

War after war
They do not cease
Endless violence
No more peace

Humanity hurtling
At breakneck speed
Faster and faster
Paying no heed

To the terrible suffering
The dreadful pain
Millions dying
From lack of grain

Worshipping objects
Ignoring the heart
Love is absent
And kept apart

Separate we live
Separate we feel
Together we fight
With blades of steel

God, can't you see
Your children are blind
Deaf and dumb
Falling behind

Why can't you stop us
From killing each other
Help us to love
Our sisters and brothers

Wake us from
This terrible dream
Ease us back
Into the stream

Of innocence, wonder
And delight
Please restore to us
Our sight

I beg you sweet Lord
Help us to be well
Ring the bell loud
Free us from Hell

Stop the machine
That has become our lives
Help us to feel
To love and to thrive

Brian Routh

River of Love

Our love guides us and the creative energy flows through us
like a deep river of endless depth.
We are to be to together my love.
Our hearts join together in a song of the soul.
We embrace and the electrical life force shoots and crackles between us.
When we kiss there is ecstasy that melts us down into pure love.
Making love we are entwined and lost in each others passionate embrace.
As we gaze into each others' eyes we drift in to other worlds of love and magic.
 I kiss you and make love to you deeply and slowly and you engulf me with spasms of ecstasy and kisses.
this is our special love my darling.
the flames of passion have set our hearts and souls ablaze.
You are mine and I am yours.
we are in love for all eternity.

Brian Routh

Room and Board

Where is the gold I've spun
Where is the love I've won
Where is the life to live
When will I learn to give

Unite the promises
of passions bold
And the dreams
I've born of old

The cross and pains
of emptiness
The rose and thorns
of eternal bliss

All I ask of you
sweet Lord
Is love and light
and room and board

Brian Routh

Routes

Exacting as it is
it takes the route to end all routes
I see and stop and pause to breathe and wipe my brow
which did I hear before the dawn broke
did I get to it
did it collar me fast
I dream of eternal sucking and blowing
I whiz with barely time to wipe my ass
hanging onto pipes
here and there
getting my bearings
which tunnel takes me where?
my eyes red and watery
my glasses frosted with ice
my arms and legs numb
my heart speeding
loud sounds
my heart the loudest
visual oasis
bombed out buildings burn't black
the blue sky
on the other side of the wall
outlet
inlet
hatch
exit
escape

Brian Routh

Seeing God

Only my hand was visible from out of the mud of my soul.
Another hand grabbed mine,
Lifted me up and sent me hurtling through space.
I was filled with a tingling joy
That shook the stars out of my head,
And the hooks out of my heart.
I knew what to do.
All the pieces of the puzzle,
The dark ones and the light ones fell into place.
I was in the darkest place in the forest.
Now I am in the clearing with the sunlight blasting me
With it’s golden trumpets.
The birds sing out.
The Kings walk and the Queen’s eyes shine brightly.
My heart is making music.
The tree from which I came from
Is now at my back,
It gives me strength.
The saints spin and God sits upon a throne
And rules the roost.

Brian Routh

Step Up

I was lying on my back thinking about this and that when suddenly a voice told me to move.
I listened and held my thoughts still and held my breath.
Again I heard the voice directing me to move.
Directing me to push up with my hands.
My arms moved freely.
I felt a faint breeze brush against my face carrying with it a sweet fragrance.
I thought of the sea.
A faint whisper directed me to push and step up.
Push and step up.
Step up, out into the awaiting world, the ominous sky.
I thought of my mother.
I thought of my father.
A small light played in my eyes.
A heartbeat resounded in my skull.
A faint whisper, a faint laugh, someone crying.
My face was wet.
Push up, step up.
Push up, step up.
A soldier waiting on the edge of the battle.
The final battle.
From in the depths of my soul came a shriek.
A piercing scream.
A flood of energy surged through my bones.
I was hurtling through space.
My arms pushed out in front of me.
My legs seeming to walk.
I stepped up and out through a door.
Out of the soil.
I paused.
Standing still, quite numb, in a state of shock.
My left arm lifted its wrist towards me.
A watch ticking.
The second hand moving.
The minute hand moving.
The hour hand moving.
I turned and faced a door.
I walked and stepped through.
I put the kettle on.
I stepped into an oblong box.
I switched on a light and stood quite still.
The walls were covered with small holes where the light poured through.
I stepped out and filled the teapot.
I poured a little milk and added a little sugar.
I poured the tea.
I lifted the axe high above my head and let it fall
Again and again.
The china flying in tiny pieces.
The teapot flying in tiny pieces.
The sugar and milk everywhere.

I was hurtling through space
Screaming and screaming and screaming.
A suitcase hit me,
Its contents one Coldstream guards peaked cap,
One baton…….
'Left-right! Left-right! '
'Smarten up lad! '
'Get those stomachs in! '
'Shoulders back! '
'You there! '
'Stick that bayonet into your foot! '
'Shoot that man next to you! '
'Fire! Fire! '
They lined up their guns and fired.
I hit the ground and I knew I was dying.
I looked at my watch.
The hour hand moved.
The light faded.
The cold began to get to me.
I knew I was dying.
All the faces looked down at me.
All the hands lifted me and carried me
And lowered me down into the soil.
I saw the door closing down on me.
I saw the light fade out.
I felt the ice and the insects
And I knew I was dead.

Brian Routh

The Angel

The angel has kissed me
I am awake with my spiritual sword in hand
ectpoplasm bubbling inside me
thoughts provoke me
I move
I am moving
drifting
fighting to grab the controls
to steer the ship
I have no chart to follow
I am a blubber bag
large and awkward
gangling my limbs
twisting my head
siphoning off poison
the gasses escaping
no chance of melting here
in this wasteland of logic
a voice within rings out
resonating reason
my sky is blue
my spirit new

Brian Routh

The beast

The endless games
the pointlessness of worlds
the strivings of egos and vanities
the desparation of permanence to fix itself
in time and space
hands are around my throat from the inside
the beast is inside me
I am no longer myself
I am everything good and bad
solid and fluid
actual
imagined

Brian Routh

The Birds of Heaven

I was asleep
the birds came to sing me from my dreams
they sang a song from you
it sang into my heart
oh my love how I miss you in the depths of me
where are you I cry?
the birds gather in strength and watch me with tears in their eyes
they they know the the joy in my heart
they know the pain I suffer without you
the blackbird sing his mournful lament
as he watches me through my window
he knows that my heart aches for you
his melody is haunting and carries off to a canyon of dreams
where your echoes call me from everywhere
where are you my darling my heart cries out
it is a the half light before dawn
and the dawn chorus explodes through me
it stirs my soul
where are you my love?
everywhere I look there you are
and yet you elude me
your hand is always in mine
your lips always touch me
and yet where are you my love?
I am filled with your majesty
and your spirit
Oh my darling I long for you
my whispers sing out to you
your laughter like bells rings out through me
oh my darling where are you?
the nightingale sings to me
she tells me your love also cries out for me
she sings your song of longing
your song of great love for me
I am moved deeply by your message to me
oh my love where are you?
I am your lifelong love
I am in your blood
that flows into my veins
oh my love you are here at last inside of me
oh my darling we are together now
we sigh a sigh that says it all
my love I am your now.

Brian Routh

The funeral

I could smell the sweet, acrid, pungent, sickly smell of death
the smell of flowers, coffee, cake, mourners and tears
lavender hung in bunches about my vision
shadows seemed to grow and spread an icy gloom across the world
I shivered in the cold but had no body to hold
I felt in the grip of some mighty gush of wild uncontrolled energy
far greater than I have ever felt before
it was raining and the trees in the cemetary were bending and rustling
the wind howled and whined
the mourners like shadows hung in space
as a great shadow began to make it's way from the east
everything was still and silent
the people standing there so still, quiet and fixed in some other world
I could hear their hearts beating
and their shallow breathing
a bell tolled and a dog barked
oh! what a strange feeling to be among the dead
what a tragedy to have died
to have lost my body
my memory fades
I was amongst the mourners
I had no physical power
no way to make my presence known
their grave faces frightened me
their expressions tired and fraught with suffering
their faces distorted and twisted
blue and red lines of light shimmered around their eyes
their breath hissed from them in gray, green, purple steam
speckled with silver flashes
thunder rumbled
the rain fell in solid sheets of water
lightening zig zagged through the clouds
a mighty battle had begun
with guns exploding and voices violently screeching
a flaming, smoking, gale force wind poured from the mouth of a gigantic dragon
it appeared and circled in the sky
the mourners did not notice me
did not see me
they are lost and concentrated on the same spot on the earth
I wander alone with heavy chains that weigh me down
they clang and disturb the stillness but no one hears

Brian Routh

The Ghost

Unfolding the parchment from it’s hook
Lengths lengths
Evergreen the holy face fresh tingling pine
Present
Alone the magical muse
Uncanny spurning
Sparkling glowing

Seeming alone in the house with the Ghost
Always present
Always there
But where?

Why can’t I touch Him?
Why can’t I feel Him?
Why can’t I love Him?

I want to see the ghost
Deep in the web
Lost in the strands
Their ways so fine
Taking me through strange places
Marching looking waving singing trailing
Sailing plane flat up the mound and down again
He leaves more bored than puzzled
Fighting the situation that would be right for some
The window open
Rapping with the exciting wind
Running wild
Not knowing where to turn
Caught in the classical noise
That ends at the waters’ edge
Where the mighty sea begins
Waves crashing bashing smashing thrashing splashing
The sharp explosion
The ovation loud wild blind tears
Cheers cheers yells screams
In it’s full glory beside the ice flows
The rivers that freeze

Brian Routh

The last machines

Strangled in my youth
gulped shut
silent nerves shaking

don't try to tell them
leave them be
to be
in consequence
the last machines

running naked
breaking bottles
sirens blazing
guns popping

live and learn
die and forget

Brian Routh

This is us

This is us my love
This is you and I
We are ringing as bells together
The sound continues for longer and longer periods.
We sing our love together
The music of our beings winds in ever increasing harmonies.
The sky seems so close
Our heads piercing the clouds.
Have we grown so big I wonder?
Are we giants now?
The love between us increased us
We are tall and expansive
And our hearts roar like thunder together.
Our eyes are like moons that shine into each other.
We take refuge with each others' love and passion.
This is us.
Yes, truly it is.
We sit up and talk throughout the night
The birds giving us pause to listen to their morning music.
We bathe together and laugh and play like two children
This is so joyous my darling.
Wrapped together we flow like a heavenly wine into one another.
Oh my love this is us.

Brian Routh

We Have Arrived

We placed all of our love into a heart shaped basket
For the Cherubs to gather up
And take to the poor in spirit.
We offer our thanks and our blessings
to those that suffer.
Thank you God for restoring our souls.
For giving us this great love to share with the world.
We love each other and our love beams out
As a lighthouse to the darkness of the lost and sick.
It is a blessing to all.
Our passion is the stuff of Divine greatness.
The food of souls.
The force of Goodness guides us.
We are two Dolphins that swim the ocean of consciouness
Together.
Our chatter is the music of the Gods
And fills the sea with warm sunlight and love.
All the fishes gather around us to hear
Our songs of love and beauty.
Ah! they say, this is such fine music to tell our children.
The whales spread our song throughout the great oceans of existence.
We surf the waves of passion laughing joyfully as we ride the high mountains
Of water.
This is our home now my love.
Finally we have arrived.

Brian Routh

When

When to say it
when to do it
when to touch it
when to hear it
when to want it
when to taste it
when to sing it
when to wing it
when to sling it
when to hop it
when to chop it
when to stop it
when to dye it red

Brian Routh

Where has the time gone?

Where has the time gone?
Cobwebs in the corner of soul.
I look at this aging lined face in the mirror.
Someone has destroyed this portrait.
No more innocence.
I look at this great ship halfway through its voyage.
I see how neglected it is.
I feel shame.
I have allowed this vessel to decline.
I have put off 'til tomorrow for too long.
It sinks away into the ocean.
Gone forever.
Lost in the darkness.
Sleeping on the ocean bed.
It no longer waits for the bliss of sunlight.
It sleeps too deeply to be conscious of itself.
Now it can only be awakened by the kiss of God.
Until then it will be unconscious of what, who and
where it is.

Brian Routh

Who

I wondered who I was
then remembering a moment of recognition
I thought I knew

Brian Routh

Who am I?

The wind blows
Across my face
My shadow moves
From place to place

My heart beats
Slow and fast
My life flows
Into the past

I ask The Cosmos
Who am I?
I ask my reflection
As it heaves a sigh

The warrior's sorrow
Fills my soul
From life to life
From goal to goal

Melancholic rapture
Pulls me deep
As I learn to fly
Within my sleep

Love and goodness
Guide my life
Peace and stillness
Calm my strife

Abandon hope
The Buddhists say
False illusion
Blinds the way

Where is desire?
In all this?
Where is passion?
And eternal bliss?

Where is woman?
In my heart?
How does romance
Play a part?

Content to live
A life alone
Gnawing idly
On my bone

Is this it?

Is this all there is?
No more bangs?
No more fizz?

Must I live?
Without embrace?
No more kisses
On my face?

I hold a torch
To light the way
Through the darkness
Of each day

I wander lost
Into the mist
Fading fast
The loves I've kissed

The magic presence
Thrills my spine
Starry passion
Pours like wine

Drunk I am
Full of wonder
My mind a swirling
Mass of thunder

Lightning flashes
Through my eyes
Rain is pouring
From my skies

Who am I?
I ask once more
A giant face
Looks through a door

A face that glows
That pours out love
Is this face me?
I ask a dove

As she flies with stillness
Through my soul
Her silent answer
Makes me whole

Now this body drifts
Into the past
I leave its shell
Free at last

I'm flying now
Free from matter
No more noise
And human clatter

A new formed body
Carries me away
Reborn to live
Another day

Another life
Another name
Different strife
And a different game

A newness that fills me
With new wonder
More new lessons
And more new blunder

On and on
The wheel I go
Who I am
I'll never know

Brian Routh

You Say

you say collaboration
i say procrastination
you say let's speak
i say next week
you say work together
i say how's the weather
you say make the time
i say that's a crime
you say let me help
i say let me yelp
you say it can be easy
i say it makes me queasy
you say let's make art
i say lonely heart
you say keep it growing
i say it's slowly going
you say we've got it made
i say it's bound to fade
you say don't give up
i say it's broken up
you say let's work on this
i say give it a miss
you say can't you see it
i say i can't be it
you say my music's great
i say it's far too late
you say i've got greatness
i say i'm just a waitress
you say feel the power
i say is that the hour

Brian Routh

Your Mirror

Look in your mirror and there I am
I am in the reflection of your soul
My image burns into you
Look my love here I am in your eyes
Do you see me
I see you
I am here
I am there
Look deeply
Do you see me
I am in you
The mirror tells you
I am here
In your heart
Give me your hand
Here, hold it here
On my chest
Feel my heartbeat?
There that is you
The beat is us
Oh darling
You fill me
Can you feel us?
This stirring?
Yes that is US
We are on our paradise island together
Oh love, can you feel me?
I am not lost with you inside of me
You have found me
I thank God you have found me
I thank God for your love
I am grateful to you
You have woken me from a hundred year sleep
I slept so deeply
thinking I would never see you again
Oh my love do you know what I am saying?
I cannot say it enough
You have found me
You who loves me
We have followed each other through all that time
We have searched for each other for ever my darling
And now I rejoice in you
Oh thank you God!
Thank you
You have brought my love to me
It is my life's long wish fulfilled
Oh God my love
At last my love
You know what I feel
You the longing that is in me
You feel as I do my darling
Thank you for not giving up

Thank you for loving me
I am so happy now darling
YOU have made my life complete.
Oh my love!

Brian Routh